

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 4, 5, 9 and 12 are amended. Support for these amendments can be found throughout Applicants' specification. No new matter is added.

Claims 4, 5, 9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 for allegedly reciting nonstatutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 4, 5, 9 and 12 are amended to even more clearly recite statutory subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4, 5, 9 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §101.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0052998 to Kiyosu et al. (hereinafter "Kiyosu"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1, 4-6, 9, 10 and 12 substantially recite a print service support system for supporting print service for producing prints related to data while delivering the data among a plurality of agencies having a "unit for accepting information for specifying the plurality of agencies." Kiyosu does not disclose or suggest this feature.

Using the rejection of claim 1 for illustrative purposes, Kiyosu discloses a color image processing apparatus for causing an output unit connected via a network to output a color image. See paragraph [0002] of Kiyosu. Kiyosu discloses a center system 1 that has an instruction terminal 11, a color proof generation section 12, a color conversion section 13, and a color conversion information storage section 14. See Fig. 1 and paragraphs [0051] - [0056] of Kiyosu. The color conversion information storage section 14 stores a one-to-one correspondence information between different output devices on remote systems. See Fig. 2 and paragraph [0056] of Kiyosu. However, the color conversion information storage section does not store a list of agencies, where each agency could have multiple output devices.

Kiyosu is only storing a list of remote devices connected to different printers to perform color conversion based upon the type of printer at the remote location.

By contrast, claim 1 recites a print service support system for supporting print service for producing prints related to data while delivering the data among a plurality of agencies having a "unit for accepting information for specifying the plurality of agencies." Kiyosu does not disclose or suggest this feature of claim 1, nor does it disclose or suggest the similar features of claims 4-6, 9, 10 and 12.

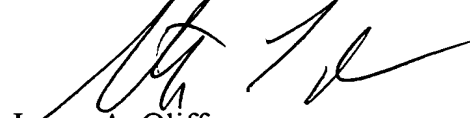
Furthermore, because Kiyosu fails to disclose or suggest all of the claimed features, Kiyosu cannot achieve the advantages of the claimed invention. For example, see page 3, lines 3-21 of Applicants' specification.

Accordingly, for all of the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 4-6, 9, 10 and 12 and claims 2, 3, 7, 8 and 11 depending therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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